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September 4, 2002

RECEIVED

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation in CS Docket No. 98-120

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 3, 2002, I spoke with Ms. Susan Eid, Legal Advisor for Chairman Michael Powell, via telephone. We discussed the digital television transition and, specifically, the impact digital must carry would have on cable programmers such as Discovery. I explained the challenges program networks face in securing cable carriage and the harm to program companies and consumers of giving broadcasters another advantage in the competition for cable carriage. I expressed concern about proposals that call for mandatory carriage of a broadcaster's analog and digital signal during the transition as well as those that call for mandatory carriage of more than the broadcaster's primary digital signal.

In accordance with the Commission's Rules, an original and one copy of this letter, are being filed with your office.

Sincerely,


Alexa Verveer

cc: Susan Eid, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell

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